

What is claimed is:

1. A printing apparatus comprising:
an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of
5 a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;
wherein
said printing apparatus is capable of printing a correction
pattern on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling
correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are
10 formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and
a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through
which said head is moved, and
a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make
up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of
15 a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing
in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said
correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different
size from said ejection head.
- 20 2. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said correction pattern has a plurality of sub-patterns,
and
each sub-pattern is made of dots arranged in a main-scanning
direction and the sub-scanning direction.
- 25 3. A printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein
each said sub-pattern has forward-pass dots that are formed
with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the forward pass
through which said head is moved and return-pass dots that are
30 formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the

return pass through which said head is moved, and
an amount of misalignment between a position at which the
forward-pass dots are formed and a position at which the
return-pass dots are formed is different for each sub-pattern.

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4. A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
a spacing in a main-scanning direction between the dots
forming said correction pattern is the same regardless of said
size.

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5. A printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
said predetermined spacing is at least twice the spacing
in the sub-scanning direction between the dots.

15 6. A printing apparatus according to claim 3, further
comprising:

 a density detection member for detecting a density of said
 sub-patterns;

 wherein

20 the misalignment between a position at which dots are formed
 during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a
 position at which dots are formed during a return pass through
 which said head is moved is corrected based on a result of the
 density detected by said density detection member.

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7. A printing apparatus comprising:

 an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of
 a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

 wherein

30 said printing apparatus is capable of printing a correction

pattern on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through 5 which said head is moved,

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said 10 correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head, and

said printing apparatus is capable of receiving command information from a user based on said correction pattern, and,

15 based on the command information, correcting a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved.

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8. A printing apparatus comprising:

an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

wherein

25 said printing apparatus is capable of printing a correction pattern on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through 30 which said head is moved,

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said 5 correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head,

 said correction pattern has a plurality of sub-patterns, each sub-pattern is made of dots arranged in a main-scanning direction and the sub-scanning direction,

10 each said sub-pattern has forward-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the forward pass through which said head is moved and return-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the return pass through which said head is moved,

15 an amount of misalignment between the forward-pass dots and the return-pass dots is different for each sub-pattern,

 a spacing in the main-scanning direction between the dots forming said correction pattern is the same regardless of said size,

20 said predetermined spacing is at least twice the spacing in the sub-scanning direction between the dots,

 said printing apparatus further comprises a density detection member for detecting a density of said sub-patterns, and

25 the misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved is corrected based on a result of the density detected by said density detection member.

9. A correction pattern comprising:

forward-pass dots that are formed by an ejection head during a forward pass through which said head is moved, said ejection head being capable of selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium; and

5 return-pass dots that are formed by said ejection head during a return pass through which said head is moved;

wherein

10 said correction pattern is for correcting a misalignment between a position at which the forward-pass dots are formed and a position at which the return-pass dots are formed, and

15 a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head.

10. A computer system comprising:

20 a computer main unit; and

a printing apparatus that has an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium, is connected to said computer main unit, and is capable of performing printing to the printing medium; and

25 wherein

said computer system is capable of printing a correction pattern on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and 30 a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through

which said head is moved, and
a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make
up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of
a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing
5 in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said
correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different
size from said ejection head.